



Foreign Agricultural Service

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Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2003

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Report Highlights:

Export prices continued to decline due to increasing supplies of second crop and lower transportation costs.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Bangkok [TH1], TH

Indicative Price (Week Ending Jan 27):

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	355	342	380	352	350	345	360	355	353
WR 100 B	205	210	204	205	195	200	204	203	207
PB 5%	196	198	197	192	202	199	192	197	196
WR 5%	200	205	200	199	190	194	199	198	202
WR 10%	195	200	197	195	185	191	194	194	198
WR 15%	192	195	194	190	180	189	189	190	195
WR 25%	186	185	189	180	175	175	184	182	186
WR 35%	182	183	187	173	170	172	179	178	182
A 1 SUP	155	155	153	151	157	153	151	154	154
A 1 SPEC	153	154	152	150	156	NQ	150	153	153
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

Market Tone

Export prices for most grades of rice continued to decline due to the increasing supplies of second crop and the relaxation of the maximum truck loading weight limits. Trade sources reported that paddy supplies of second crop was coming out, leading to more available supplies in the market. Also, the strict enforcement of maximum truck loading weight limits was relaxed from 21 to 26 tons, starting Feb 1, 2003 until the end of this year. The relaxation could ease the transportation costs to some extent. However, foreign market demand was still weak as the current price remained unattractive.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
DEC 21	92,990	79,392	5,700	7,289
DEC 28	88,391	74,278	5,789	7,515
JAN 5	9,895	63,897	10	62
JAN 12	75,631	66,727	86	230
JAN 19	99,574	68,373	185	391
JAN 26	109,597	73,674	295	558

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports for Jan 20-26, 2003, totaled 109,597 tons, up 10,022 tons from the previous week's total and up 35,922 tons from the four week moving average of 73,674 tons. Exports during Jan 1-26, 2003, totaled 295 thousand tons, compared with 558 thousand tons (including fragrant rice) during the same period in 2002.

According to Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan 1 - 22, 2003 amounted to 371,859 tons, down 15.6 percent from 440,471 tons during the same period in 2002.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Jan 6-10, Jan 13-17, and Jan 20-24, 2003 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Jan 6-10	Jan 13-17	Jan 20-24
weekly sales	87,175	80,866	125,571
4 week sum	-	-	334,375
4 week mov avg.	-	-	83,594
Total weekly sales	127,938	208,804	334,375